

From: Bill McAuley On Behalf Of PSIO-Intelligence

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Subject: PSIO SITREP UPDATE #1 – 5 Feb 2022 – Freedom Convoy Solidarity Activity

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ONLY: SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS SITUATION DEVELOPS. INFORMATION MAY BE BASED ON UNCONFIRMED REPORTING.

UPDATE #1

DATE/TIME: February 5, 2022 @ 1200 hrs

PURPOSE: To provide aggregated situational awareness regarding “Freedom Convoy” solidarity activity impacting Alberta.

BACKGROUND: No Change

CURRENT STATUS:

Coutts Border Crossing

- Correction – NOTAMs in effect until **Wed 9 Feb 2022**.
- Police Check Point 10 (18 km North of Coutts on Hwy 4) very active overnight with protesters putting pressure on containment positions. CP10 has turned into an illegal protest area. As of 10:00 hrs, vehicle counts at CP10 were 200 passenger vehicles, 40 RVs, and 50 commercial vehicles. There is anticipation that due to traffic volumes already, the traffic flow at CP10 will likely become grid locked.
- NB and SB HWY 4 is operating presently with one lane in each direction and vehicles are getting through the border. CBSA is engaged and should Coutts crossing be closed there is a contingency plan to open Del Bonita (which is closed on weekends). Del Bonita is not a good crossing for commercial vehicles.
- Commercial vehicles are presently able to turn around at the South access to Milk River. Commercial Vehicle Investigators from Sheriff's Highway Patrol (SHP) are assisting with RCMP as to what is commercial and what is not.
- Some ‘Freedom Riders’ (horses) arrived near CP10 at approx 11:00. Currently appears to be a few dozen individuals. A few riders now in area. Appear to intend to ride south on horseback.
- Paul Brandt is not performing in the Coutts area. [confirmed]

Alberta Legislature / McDougall Centre

- RCMP continue to monitoring all known planned/ongoing protests, convoys, and blockades intending to converge on the Legislature.
- As of 11:00 Sat 5 Feb, Sheriffs report protesters starting to arrive at LEG grounds. Approximately 100 protestors scattered around campus right with about 50 on the Violet King Henry Plaza.
- A convoy has arrived in downtown core. Travelling counter clockwise around LEG grounds, honking horns.
- Sheriff operations have closed the entrance to the government centre at: 107 Street at 99 Avenue; 6 Avenue at 106 Street; Fortway Road at River Valley Road. These road closures will be in place for Saturday and may not conclude until Sunday evening.
- EPS observing group chatter that the main group of protestors/vehicles will not reach the Ledge grounds until 1600 hrs.

City of Edmonton & Environs

- As of 11:00, an Acheson-origin convoy was on Stony Plain Rd. Bound for the CTV complex.
- EPS report:
 - approximately 600 trucks/other vehicles have left Acheson & Nisku en-route to Edmonton. Traffic at Nisku Blackjack and Acheson Husky appears less than last week.
 - 30 farm tractors are nearing the city from Wetaskiwin which is causing delays on the QEII.
 - EPS traffic section is deployed and they have traffic control point (TCP's) established at 99, 100 AVE.
 - EPS Chopper (AIR1) is down until at least 14:00 due to weather.
 - Talks are that the main group of protestors/vehicles will not reach the Ledge grounds until 1600 hrs.
- Edmonton Emergency Operation centre (EOC) report:
 - EPS report that the mayor and family have been moved as the protesters are aware of his residence.
 - Edmonton is expecting 8 separate convoys into Edmonton today.
 - Edmonton is expecting the "farm tractor" convoy to circle on the Anthony Henday all day in counter clockwise direction.
 - ETS closed the government transit center at 0850 today.
 - Edmonton has barricades prepositioned in case of need.

City of Calgary & Environs

- A slow-roll protest is expected to begin at 12:00, departing from BAKER PART NW and circumnavigate the city via Hwy 201 and Hwy 8.
- A counter protests is anticipated near the Sheldon Shumer Urgent Care centre.
- Some chatter regarding plans to attend Premier Kenney's residence. [unconfirmed]

Regional Municipalities / Rural

- As of 11:45, Northboud convoy has reached Ponoka. Zello communications reportedly being disrupted by counter-protesters.
- Online chatter about a possible blockage of Hwy 1 near BROOKS, AB. [unconfirmed]

Ottawa "Freedom Convoy 2022"

- Ottawa Freedom Convoy has launched a new funding platform on GiveSendGo following their issues with GoFundMe. Currently at \$1.1 million.

Other Provinces / National

- *Not assessed at this time.*

MINISTRY UPDATES:

Justice & Solicitor General (JSG):

- RCMP is bringing in 40 relief officers from BC under inter-provincial agreement.

Transportation (TRAN):

- Carway/Piegan border crossing now open 08:00-2200 / 7 days a week. The US Piegan port has matched the CBSA Carway hours.
- Del Bonita border crossing. CBSA continue discussion with USCBP and as a result of current volumes it was determined that the port of Del Bonita would maintain its normal hours of operation. There are contingency plans in place should the protests block the highway over the weekend. The department is the lead on interacting with the CBSA.

Municipal Affairs:

- A request for federal logistic assistance has been submitted. Awaiting response for GoC.

Jobs, Economy, and Innovation (JEI):

- No Change

Agriculture, Forestry, and Rural Economic Development (AFRED):

- Attempting to confirm veterinary services required for international / long haul transport of live animals at Regway, SK (792 km from Coutts)

ASSESSMENT & STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS:

- Opposition elements appear to be imposing friction on some movement and convoy communications. This may increase potential for conflict.
- Participation estimates unfeasible at this time.

FORECAST:

- Protest numbers at the Legislature are likely to peak later than anticipated. Disruption likely to extend beyond 1800 hrs.

PREPARED BY: Intelligence Bureau, Provincial Security & Intelligence Office (PSIO)

DISTRIBUTION.

- **GOA:** EXEC: DM//COS//PO COS//PO Issues Manager | **JSG:** MINO COS//DM//ADSG//COS//ADM PSD//ED LEOB//ED PSIO//ED Sheriffs//DIR EM//DIR Int Bureau | **TRANS:** DM//ADM Planning, Procurement & Tech Stds | **MA:** DM | **Health:** DM | **JEI:** DM//ED Industry & Regional Rel. | **AFRED:** DM//ED Food Safety

- **RCMP:** KDEOC//KDCAS

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